**Minutes**

**Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board**

**Thursday, August 21, 2014**

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CDT

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFF)

Lincoln, Nebraska

**Board Members Present**

Brandon Verzal, Mary Fran Flood, Paula Eurek (for Dr. Joseph Acierno), Emily Kluver (for Thomas Pristow), Lisa Knoche, Mary Beth Hanus,Trisha Crandall

**Excused**: Denise Pecha

**Support Staff Present** Betty Medinger, Kathy Stokes, Kelly Medwick, Lindsay Honnens Consultant Gay McTate was also present for part of the meeting.

**Call to order**

Brandon called the meeting to order.

**Meeting Minutes**

Mary Fran made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes.

Seconded: Trisha

Motion passed unanimously

Mary Fran made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes.

Seconded: Mary Beth

Motion passed unanimously

**Budget**

The Board reviewed two budget documents from Emily. The balance of unobligated funds for the current year is $87,500. The most recently updated balance of unobligated funds from the previous year is $10,000. Discussion clarified that this amount reflects point-in-time processing. Since reports were due on July 31, final expenses are in a review and processing stage.

It was noted that all expenditures by grantees for the current year must be submitted to DHHS by no later than June 15, 2015 since this is then end of a biennium.

**Grantee update:**

Kathy provided an overview of current grantee timelines: The past grant year ended on June 30 and reports were due and submitted by July 31. An annual report on each grantee community and cross-site information will be available at the October meeting. The staff, consultant, and evaluation team is working to ensure that the report is complete and accurate. Local child abuse prevention councils have provided positive anecdotal information and will submit their reports by September 15. A summary of these reports will also be provided at the October Board meeting.

**Discussion and Decision on unallocated funds:**

**Board members reviewed options for unallocated funds. The first set of options included prevention programs or systems.**

*Community Cafés*. Kathy provided information on Community Cafés. Community Cafés have been successfully implemented in many other states as part of a parent engagement strategy. Cafes have an evidence informed approach that can be trained and them implemented and sustained in the community. In addition to involving parents as part of the solution (and not just the problem or consumers of services) the cafes build parent leadership. The café conversations and follow up with community action plans use the Protective Factors framework. Current Child Well Being communities are requesting training and support for the cafés. Board members discussed selection of communities for participation. The National Alliance of Children’s Trust and Prevention Funds provides training that is a good fit for Nebraska communities.

*Parent Child Psychotherapy (CPP).* Mary Fran shared information on CPP saying that it is not geared to behavioral problems like PCIT and is used with much younger children. It has been used with families participating in drug court and other hi-risk families and is covered by Medicaid. Paula asked how to ensure that providers serve families in need; Betty and others noted that -child welfare families can be tough for therapists to work with and some Lincoln therapists have expressed these concerns. Kathy mentioned the benefits that have been experienced by therapists trained in groups and the usefulness of outside support or infrastructure for practitioners.

*Getting Ready Coordination*. Lisa described Getting Ready as a universal approach to improving parent-child relationships and parent relationships with teachers with a research context. The goals are social-emotional competencies and school readiness. It includes teacher training on intervention strategies to support parents in about a 2-yr process. It is a deeper component that Pyramid model itself doesn’t necessarily have. Paula asked how many communities could be ready to participate and Lisa responded that about 8 had already completed training. The proposed coordination to other related programs or initiatives doesn’t happen without dedication to it. Mary Fran asked how the coordination would happen and what it would accomplish. Lisa said this proposal would help create a template for the process but wouldn’t have specific accomplishments in the first year.

**The second set of options included marketing and communications.**

Discussion for use of current year funds began with discussion of support for 16 or more child abuse prevention councils to order Pinwheels for Prevention and Rethink Your Reaction materials. Kelly described the previous year’s creation of the prevention store and Kathy noted positive responses from the prevention councils. Emily also reminded the Board of its investment in the one-time cost of setting up the store. Nebraska Children can add a landing page at no cost for the coming year.

For use of unallocated funds from last year and this year, Kelly presented five marketing and communications options:

-An interactive landing page that would lead users to information tailored to them on using the Protective Factors (e.g., parents versus professionals or businesses)

-A press kit and weekly story pitches focusing on the Protective Factors. Local prevention councils have been interested in these resources in the past.

-An April kick-off event in Lincoln. Kelly described donations of food by local businesses and the interest of the Deputy Director of the the Downtown Lincoln Association, who is also President of the Marketing Association and used pinwheels in shop-the-block. Brandon noted the good attendance by a diverse group of families, including many with special needs.

- A media buy on NET and KIOS (Omaha) for announcements in April and following

- Rural focused radio ads in April in following

Mary Fran noted that more could be done in marketing and communications this year with the carry forward funds. Following discussion, Trisha made a motion to use Pickering to host, stock and provide support for the Prevention Store, in the amount of $34,500.

Seconded: Mary Beth

The motion passed unanimously.

**The Prevention Summit as another funding option**

Betty described plans for the November 14 Prevention Summit to be held in Lincoln, including the list of speakers. The Summit planning group asked the NCAPF Board for a contribution.

Lisa made a motion to contribute **$1,000** to the Prevention Summit.

Seconded: Trisha

The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on program options continued**

Betty informed the group of the remaining amount to be allocated: $62,000 ($87,500 current year + $10,000 previous year– 34,500 - $1,000).

Discussion continued on marketing and communications. Kelly explained that KIOS is NET-public radio in Omaha. KIOS and NET costs include production time for new spots. Buys through Learfield include national talent and production costs so this vendor could place some of the other ads. Regarding the press kit and weekly story pitches, costs are for printing the kit. For the April kick-off event, a new community relations person at the Journal Star will be contacted.

Following this more detailed discussion and cost considerations, Trisha asked motioned to approve all of the five marketing and communications options for unallocated funds in the amount of **$33,500**.

Seconded: Mary Fran

The motion passed unanimously.

Betty asked about using the remaining $28,500 for program costs with any remainder for councils and marketing and communications**.**

Lisa recused herself for discussion on Getting Ready.

Mary Beth said she was uncomfortable with the potential conflict of interest in Board funding for any member’s program. Paula noted that this option is also the softest. Gay shared her observations of push-back from professional communities around Evidence Based Practices and connections noting that it would be great to do in the future but there isn’t enough readiness at present. Mary Fran made a motion to eliminate the Getty Ready proposal for now and recommended development of a process for inclusion in the future. Seconded: Mary Beth

The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa returned to the meeting.

Trisha asked about the need for CPP. Mary Fran said that $26,000 is just a small beginning and that a much larger amount was used by a recently completed project through CCFL. She also said that practitioners need skills to the therapy itself plus ability to work in the system. Paula says that support to train more therapists in CPP begs larger systems questions. CCFL is also working on building the infrastructure to support CPP.

Board members observed that Community Cafés are more primary prevention (than CPP) as they would help families to develop their own assets, however, the results may be less tangible. Many current resources are in the deeper end of the prevention-to-intervention continuum. Mary Beth reminded members that the Cafés could contribute to the marketing and communications as both use the Protective Factors. Paula and Trisha remarked that parent leadership and self-efficacy are very so important. The Board asked how participants would be selected and discussed the relevance of community organizations that would be connected and responsive to Café discussions. The Board deferred selection to Nebraska Children and requested that information on which communities apply to participate be sent to members as it is available.

Gay commented both options of training therapists in CPP or parent engagement through Community Cares would be good.

Trisha made a motion to support three or more communities in training and implementation of Community Cafes, as described in the program options, with at least one community to include Spanish speaking parents, in the amount of **$27,500**.

Seconded: Paula

Motion passed unanimously.

**Timeline:**

Board members reviewed the timeline and noted the schedule of quarterly meeting dates

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 16, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.